

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (currently amended) A support component for a temporary platform for use on soft, watery or unstable terrain comprising:

a gabion container having one or a plurality of compartments; said gabion container being constructed with flexible wire mesh; and

a light-weight filler material contained within said one or a plurality of compartments.

2. (original) The support component of claim 1, wherein the filler material is comprised of a buoyant material.

3. (original) The support component of claim 2, wherein the buoyant material consists of a polystyrene foam.

4. (original) The support component of claim 1, wherein the filler material is encapsulated in a wrapper.

5. (original) The support component of claim 4, wherein the wrapper consists of fabric.

6. (original) The support component of claim 1, wherein the gabion container further comprises means for connecting to one or a plurality of additional support components.

7. (currently amended) A temporary platform or roadway for use on soft, watery or unstable terrain comprising:

one or a plurality of layers of gabion containers; said gabion containers having one or a plurality of compartments; said gabion containers being constructed with flexible wire mesh;

a light-weight filler material contained within said one or a plurality of compartments; and said one or a plurality of layers of gabion containers being connected to each other to create a top surface;

one or a plurality of panels forming said platform or roadway overlaying said top surface.

8. (original) The platform or roadway of claim 7, wherein the filler material is comprised of a buoyant material.
9. (original) The platform or roadway of claim 8, wherein the buoyant material consists of a polystyrene foam.
10. (original) The platform or roadway of claim 7, wherein the filler material is encapsulated in a wrapper.
11. (original) The platform or roadway of claim 10, wherein the wrapper consists of a fabric.
12. (currently amended) A method of constructing a temporary platform or roadway for use on soft, watery or unstable terrain comprising:
filling a plurality of gabion containers with a light-weight filler material; said gabion containers being constructed with flexible wire mesh;
connecting a plurality of gabion containers to each other to form a layer; said layer of gabion containers having a top surface;
overlaying one or a plurality of panels on the top surface to form the platform or roadway.
13. (original) The method set forth in claim 12, wherein the filler material is comprised of a buoyant material.
14. (original) The method set forth in claim 13, wherein the buoyant material consists of a polystyrene foam.
15. (original) The method set forth in claim 12, wherein the filler material is encapsulated in a wrapper.
16. (original) The method set forth in claim 15, wherein the wrapper consists of a fabric.
17. (new) The support component of claim 4, wherein the wrapper consists of a material impermeable to water.

18. (new) The temporary platform or roadway of claim 10, wherein the wrapper consists of a material impermeable to water.

19. (new) The support component of claim 15, wherein the wrapper consists of a material impermeable to water.